

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Bebbington *et al.* Art Unit: 1624
Serial Number: not yet assigned Examiner: Habte, K.
Filing Date: December 15, 2003, filed herewith
For: *Pyrazole Compounds Useful as Protein Kinase Inhibitors*

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Examiner Habte:

In response to the Office Action mailed on August 15, 2003, for Serial Number: 10/026,966, Applicants are filing a continuation application herewith and respectfully request consideration of this Preliminary Amendment prior to examination on the merits. Applicants additionally respectfully request a three (3) month extension of time from September 15, 2003, up to and including December 15, 2003.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begin on page 2 of this paper. The amendments presented in this Preliminary Amendment are the same as those presented in Applicants' response for serial number 10/026,966, dated August 4, 2003, which were not entered by the Examiner in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.145. Applicants respectfully request entry of these amendments and consideration of compounds wherein one and only one of Z¹ or Z² is nitrogen. Applicants apologize for any inconvenience to the Examiner for the confusion in this matter.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 14 of this paper.